AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS

1.-4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The electric machine of claim [[5]] 7, wherein the stranded ~~wires~~ conductors are twisted with a predeterminable pitch.

7. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ An electric machine ~~of claim 5~~, comprising a squirrel-cage rotor having a cage winding made of flexible conductors, wherein the flexible conductors are stranded conductors which are arranged in a meandering pattern, placed in opposite directions, in slots of the squirrel-cage rotor, so as to form a cage connection in the rotor, wherein the stranded ~~wires~~ conductors have filaments, said stranded ~~wires~~ conductors having different cross sectional configuration and their filaments having different cross sectional configuration.

8. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ An electric machine ~~of claim 5~~, comprising a squirrel-cage rotor having a cage winding made of flexible conductors, wherein the flexible conductors are stranded conductors which are arranged in a meandering pattern, placed in opposite directions, in slots of the squirrel-cage rotor, so as to form a cage connection in the rotor, wherein the stranded ~~wires~~ conductors have filaments, each of the stranded ~~wires~~ conductors and its filaments have ~~a length of~~ different cross sectional configuration over a length thereof.

9. (Currently amended) The electric machine of claim [[5]] 7, wherein the cage winding of the squirrel-cage rotor includes more than two stranded ~~wires~~ conductors.

10. (Currently amended) The electric machine of claim 9, wherein the stranded ~~wires~~ conductors are arranged in alternating pattern in an upper layer and lower layer of the slots.

11. (Currently amended) The electric machine of claim [[5]] 7, wherein the stranded ~~wires~~ conductors in a slot are in electric contact.

12. (Currently amended) The electric machine of claim [[5]] 7, further comprising a holding element for keeping the stranded ~~wires~~ conductors in position.

13. (Previously presented) The electric machine of claim 12, wherein the holding element is made of an electrically insulating material of high strength.

14. (Previously presented) The electric machine of claim 12, wherein the holding element has a ring-shaped configuration.

15. (Previously presented) The electric machine of claim 12, wherein the holding element has a trough-shaped, cap-like configuration.

16. (Previously presented) The electric machine of claim 12, further comprising fan blades provided on the holding element.

17. (Currently amended) The electric machine of claim 11, wherein the stranded ~~wires~~ conductors are in electric contact through press-fitting in the slot.

18. (Currently amended) The electric machine of claim 17, wherein the electric contact is ~~realized~~ established at least in a section of the stranded ~~wires~~ conductors.

19. (Currently amended) The electric machine of claim 18, further comprising a conducting element driven into the section for establishing the electric contact between the stranded ~~wires~~ conductors in the slot.

20. (Currently amended) The electric machine of claim 17, wherein the electric contact is ~~realized~~ established by a conducting potting compound filled in the slot.

21. (Currently amended) The electric machine of claim 17, wherein the electric contact is ~~realized~~ established immediately after the stranded ~~wires~~ conductors exit the rotor.

22. (New) The electric machine of claim 8, wherein the stranded conductors are twisted with a predeterminable pitch.

23. (New) The electric machine of claim 8, wherein the cage winding of the squirrel-cage rotor includes more than two stranded conductors.

24. (New) The electric machine of claim 23, wherein the stranded conductors are arranged in alternating pattern in an upper layer and lower layer of the slots.

25. (New) The electric machine of claim 8, wherein the stranded conductors in a slot are in electric contact.

26. (New) The electric machine of claim 8, further comprising a holding element for keeping the stranded conductors in position.

27. (New) The electric machine of claim 26, wherein the holding element is made of an electrically insulating material of high strength.

28. (New) The electric machine of claim 26, wherein the holding element has a ring-shaped configuration.

29. (New) The electric machine of claim 26, wherein the holding element has a trough-shaped, cap-like configuration.

30. (New) The electric machine of claim 26, further comprising fan blades provided on the holding element.

31. (New) The electric machine of claim 25, wherein the stranded conductors are in electric contact through press-fitting in the slot.

32. (New) The electric machine of claim 31, wherein the electric contact is established at least in a section of the stranded conductors.

33. (New) The electric machine of claim 32, further comprising a conducting element driven into the section for establishing the electric contact between the stranded conductors in the slot.

34. (New) The electric machine of claim 31, wherein the electric contact is established by a conducting potting compound filled in the slot.

35. (New) The electric machine of claim 31, wherein the electric contact is established immediately after the stranded conductors exit the rotor.